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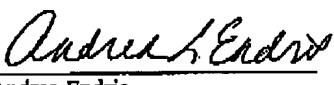
S/N 09/624,955

OCT 29 2004

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	MURATA	Examiner:	T. LAMB
Serial No.:	09/624,955	Group Art Unit:	2622
Filed:	JULY 25, 2000	Docket No.:	10873.108USD3
Title:	DIGITAL COPIER WITH IMAGE SCANNER APPARATUS AND OFFLINE IMAGE DATA AND CONTROL DATA INTERFACE		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 29, 2004.

By: 
Name: Andrea Endris

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 29, 2004. Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 31, 32, 33, 35, 39, 40, 42, and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Sakata (US 5,105,284). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Sakata discloses at column 20, line 50 to column 2, line 35 that the operating procedure program for the ADF (automatic document feeder) can be stored together with image data in a laser card as a removable recording medium. The operation conditions include extra data designating the order, the position, and the like of automatically feeding. Sakata fails to disclose how the operating procedure program is set or that the operating procedures are set according to print control parameters. Therefore, Sakata fails to disclose a "means for setting the operation condition of the printing means according to print control parameters," as required by claims 31 and 35, or "setting a printing condition according to the print control parameters," as required by

claims 39 and 44. Thus, Sakata fails to disclose every limitation of claims 31, 35, 39 and 44 and the claims that depend from them.

Claims 34, 41 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakata in view of Nagashima (US 4,719,516). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As discussed above, Sakata fails to disclose or suggest every limitation of claims 31 and 39. Nagashima fails to remedy the deficiencies of Sakata as it relates to claims 31 and 39. Therefore, claims 34, 41 and 43 are allowable for at least the reason they are dependent upon an allowable base claim. Applicant does not concede the correctness of this rejection.

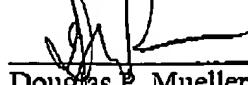
Claims 36-38 and 45-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakata in view of Itoh (US 5,923,437). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As discussed above, Sakata fails to disclose or suggest a means of setting the operating procedure program according to print control parameters. Therefore, Sakata fails to disclose or suggest "means for setting an operation condition of the printing means according to the print control parameters," as required by claim 37, or "setting a printing condition according to the print control parameters," as required by claim 46. Itoh fails to remedy the deficiencies of Sakata as it relates to claims 37 and 46. Therefore, Sakata and Itoh fail to disclose or suggest every limitation of claims 37 and 46 and the claims that depend from them.

In view of the above, Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 29, 2004